

REMARKS

In the Office action of May 18, 2006, the examiner indicated that claims 1, 4-7, 21-23, and 25-31 are allowed. The examiner also indicated that the reticle within a shipping box and the creation of a temperature gradient within the box, in combination with other aspects of claim 23 defines over the prior art.

Claims 32 and 34 are amended to indicate that a thermophoretic source creates a temperature gradient. In claim 32, the temperature gradient is within a shipping container and the temperature gradient protects particles from contaminating the reticle. In claim 34, the thermophoretic source is positioned such that the gradient protects the reticle from contamination. Therefore both independent claims create a temperature gradient that protects the reticle.

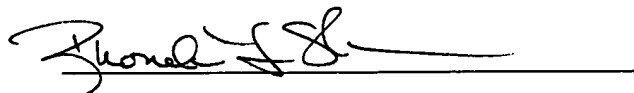
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. The examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested.

The commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.1019US).

Respectfully submitted,

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